

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-25

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DRAFTED BY EUR/SE:HEKIRBY:DJM

APPROVED BY EUR:JGLOWENSTEIN

EUR/SE:WLEAGLETON

EUR/WE:KSHIRLEY

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TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

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USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 184106

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR, CY

SUBJECT: BELGIAN CHARGE'S CALL ON DEPUTY ASSISTANT

SECRETARY RE CYPRUS

1. BELGIAN CHARGE DEHENNIN AND COUNSELOR POSTHUMA MET EUR DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY LOWENSTEIN AUGUST 20 TO REVIEW CYPRUS SITUATION. LOWENSTEIN SAID HE HOPED FRENCH EMBASSY HERE IS KEEPING EC NINE COLLEAGUES INFORMED OF US VIEWS, SINCE DEPARTMENT HAS CONSISTENTLY KEPT FRENCH POSTED FOR THIS PURPOSE. DEHENNIN IMPLIED LOCAL EC NINE COORDINATION ON CYPRUS LEAVES SOMETHING TO BE DESIRED AND SAID HE WOULD CONTACT HIS FRENCH OPPOSITE NUMBER.

2. DEHENNIN SAID HE THOUGHT THERE MAY BE AMBIGUITY IN SOME QUARTERS, E.G. IN ATHENS PERHAPS, REGARDING US POLICY
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TOWARD CYPRUS CRISIS. LOWENSTEIN REPLIED THAT SECRETARY

KISSINGER IN AUGUST 19 PRESS CONFERENCE VERY CLEARLY STATED CURRENT US POLICY IN HIS SIX POINT ENUNCIATION. WE HAVE ASKED EMBASSY PARIS TO DRAW GOF'S ATTENTION TO PRESS CONFERENCE AS A MEANS OF COORDINATING WITH EC NINE. LOWENSTEIN SAID SECRETARY HAS ASSURANCES THERE WILL BE NO FURTHER MILITARY OPERATIONS ON CYPRUS AND, IN FACT, THERE HAVE BEEN NO FURTHER MAJOR OPERATIONS. LOWENSTEIN NOTED US STANDS READY TO BE OF WHATEVER ASSISTANCE PARTIES CENTRAL TO CYPRUS CRISIS THINK DESIRABLE. WE HOPE EC NINE CAN ALSO BE HELPFUL TO PARTIES INVOLVED.

3. LOWENSTEIN INDICATED US IS CURRENTLY ACTIVE IN ARRANGING EMERGENCY RELIEF FOR CYPRUS. HE SAID THAT IN TESTIMONY BEFORE SENATOR KENNEDY'S SUBCOMMITTEE ON REFUGEES AUGUST 20, ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN STATED THAT US IS PROVIDING ADDITIONAL DOLS 500,000 FOR RELIEF BEYOND DOLS 225,000 IN CASH AND DOLS 600,000 WORTH OF COMMODITIES WHICH WE PREVIOUSLY PLEDGED. RELIEF ACTIVITIES ARE BEING COORDINATED BY INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF RED CROSS AND WE HOPE EUROPEAN COUNTRIES WILL ALSO ASSIST IN THIS RELIEF EFFORT.

4. IN REPLY TO DEHENNIN'S QUESTION, LOWENSTEIN SAID THERE HAVE BEEN NO NEW DEVELOPMENTS ON THE NEGOTIATING FRONT. DEHENNIN SAID THERE IS GREAT CONCERN IN BRUSSELS OVER PRESENT GREEK ATTITUDES AND POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTIONS. THERE IS FEAR THAT GREEK FRUSTRATION MIGHT DRIVE ATHENS EVEN FURTHER THAN DECISION IT HAS ALREADY TAKEN REGARDING AN ATTENUATED RELATIONSHIP WITH NATO. ACKNOWLEDGING THAT IT IS UNCLEAR WHAT FUTURE GOG POLICY LINES ARE LIKELY TO BE, LOWENSTEIN SAID US HOPES ATHENS WILL ULTIMATELY RECONSIDER NATO DECISION WHEN CURRENT EMOTIONS SUBSIDE. DESPITE SOME MEDIA COMMENT TO THE CONTRARY, THERE HAS BEEN NO TILT TO TURKEY. US OBJECTIVE THROUGHOUT HAS BEEN TO MAINTAIN ITS CREDIBILITY WITH BOTH ATHENS AND ANKARA. WE WANT TO BE CONSIDERED A FRIEND OF EACH SO WE MAY BE HELPFUL TO BOTH.

5. DEHENNIN ASKED WHETHER NATO COULD NOT PLAY ACTIVE ROLE IN NEGOTIATIONS. LOWENSTEIN SAID SOME MULTILATERAL

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APPROACH TO NEGOTIATIONS MAY BE POSSIBLE. THERE MIGHT BE DIFFICULTIES WITH NATO AS A FORUM SINCE CYPRUS IS NOT A MEMBER OF NATO AND ALSO BECAUSE IT IS DIFFICULT TO DISCUSS WITHIN THE ALLIANCE THE PROBLEMS OF TWO ALLIANCE MEMBERS. DEHENNIN ASKED US REACTION TO A RECENT SUGGESTION THAT NATO COUNCIL BE REGULARLY BRIEFED BY US ON US DIPLOMACY REGARDING CYPRUS. LOWENSTEIN SAID WE ARE SENDING USNATO TELEGRAMS RELATING TO CYPRUS AND THAT

US MISSION IS KEEPING SECRETARY GENERAL LUNS' OFFICE ABREAST OF US POLICY. LOWENSTEIN NOTED US IS SIMPLY ONE MEMBER OF ALLIANCE AND WONDERED WHETHER BRITISH, AS GUARANTOR POWER, MIGHT NOT BE ASKED TO BRIEF COUNCIL.

6. LOWENSTEIN REPLIED NEGATIVELY TO DEHENNIN'S QUESTION WHETHER THE KARAMANLIS GOVERNMENT HAS ORDERED ANY CHANGES IN US USE OF ITS MILITARY FACILITIES IN GREECE. HE ALSO SAID US HAD NO PRIOR KNOWLEDGE OF ANTI-MAKARIOS COUP, EVEN THOUGH COUP RUMORS WERE FLOATING AROUND.

7. DEHENNIN ASKED FOR LOWENSTEIN'S ASSESSMENT OF CURRENT SOVIET ATTITUDES ON CYPRUS. LOWENSTEIN SAID USSR HAS BEEN QUIET. "WATCHFUL WAITING" BEST CHARACTERIZES SOVIET ATTITUDE.

8. LEAVING CYPRUS, DEHENNIN ASKED ABOUT FOLLOWING:

A. CSCE -- LOWENSTEIN SAID US HOPES ALLIES WILL GIVE CAREFUL ATTENTION TO REVISED BASKET 3 TEXTS TABLED BY US IN GENEVA BEFORE CSCE RECESS, WITH AIM OF DEFINING MINIMUM ALLIED CSCE OBJECTIVES.

B. US-EC NINE ECONOMIC DISCUSSIONS -- DEHENNING QUESTIONED WHETHER US IS PLANNING TO INITIATE US-EUROPEAN TALKS ON INFLATION OR OTHER SALIENT ECONOMIC QUESTIONS. LOWENSTEIN REPLIED THAT US IS NOW PREPARING FOR NEXT REGULAR SEMI-ANNUAL US-EC NINE CONSULTATIVE MEETING, WHICH IS SCHEDULED FOR WASHINGTON IN THE AUTUMN AND COULD INCLUDE ANY SUBJECT OF MUTUAL CONCERN, BUT WE HAVE NOT YET DEVELOPED ANY FIRM PROPOSALS. KISSINGER

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